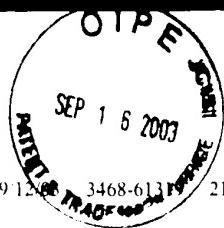


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PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**In re application of:** Henry D. Wood, et al.

**Application No.** 10/040,240

**Filed:** October 26, 2001

**Confirmation No.** 9266

**For:** ROD REPLENISHMENT SYSTEM FOR  
USE IN SINGLE CRYSTAL SILICON  
PRODUCTION

**Examiner:** Felisa Carla Hiteshew

**Art Unit:** 1765

**Attorney Reference No.** 3468-61319/RJP

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as being attached or enclosed herewith are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Attorney  
for Applicant(s)

Date Mailed September 12, 2003

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO**  
**37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)**

Listed on the accompanying form PTO-1449 and enclosed herewith are two English-language patent publications.

Applicants also wish to disclose that, At the SEMICON/West 97 show held in San Francisco July 14-16, 1997, Kayex Corporation included in its booth a display of a charge replenishment (CR) rod dovetail holder system useful for charging and recharging a melting crucible of a Czochralski (CZ) crystal pulling furnace. The system was designed by Advanced Silicon Material, Inc. (ASiMI).

This display contained a full size CR rod on the order of 140 mm in diameter and a short CR rod (100-150mm in length) that was a working model of ASiMI's dovetail holder system. The working model included a fabricated dovetail groove in one end of the short CR rod and a

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each other. The hanger was designed to fit into Kayex's seed holder and thus allow the CR rod to be suspended from the seed holder in a CZ furnace. The two attached drawings, Figure 1 and Figure 2, show a rod and hanger that are similar to what the displayed fabricated CR rod and hanger looked like. As shown in the drawings, the holder had a large diameter section on which the CR rod was hung and supported. The hanger and rods displayed at the SEMICON show could have been used successfully, without modification, in a CZ furnace.

The CR rod and working model of ASiMI's dovetail holder system were on display at the Kayex booth on each of the three days of the SEMICON show. They were freely accessible for close visual inspection by the public throughout the three-day period and no part of the rod and dovetail holder system was hidden from view.

ASiMI first approached Kayex in the summer of 1994 with its CR rod dovetail hanger system. A testing program was initiated in late 1994 to begin testing the dovetail hanger system at Kayex's facility. At least as early as November 1994, a test was conducted during which an ASiMI dovetail hanger system, similar to the one shown in the attached drawings, was successfully used to melt a CR rod in a CZ furnace. Testing continued off and on from late 1994 through 1997. During this period several of Kayex's customers were introduced to ASiMI's CR rod dovetail hanger system.

Submitted herewith is a check for \$180.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for filing this IDS in compliance with 1.97(c).

Please charge any additional fees which may be required in connection with filing this IDS, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4550.

The filing of this IDS shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, prior art or otherwise material to patentability as defined in Rule 56.

Respectfully submitted,

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
BY APPLICANT**

<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	3468-61319/RJP
<b>Application Number</b>	10/040,240
<b>Filing Date</b>	October 26, 2001
<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Wood, et al.
<b>Art Unit</b>	1765
<b>Examiner Name</b>	Felisa Carla Hiteshew

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

<b>Examiner's Initials*</b>	<b>Cite No. (optional)</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>
		6,461,426	10/2002	Inoue et al.
				<b>RECEIVED</b>
				SEP 24 2003
				PC 1700

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

<b>Examiner's Initials*</b>	<b>Cite No. (optional)</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Country</b>
		2000-344594	12/2000	Japan Abstract

**OTHER DOCUMENTS**

<b>Examiner's Initials*</b>	<b>Cite No. (optional)</b>	

EXAMINER

DATE

\*\* conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.